

Trott in deeper trouble

ANI, London

England batsman Jonathan Trott reportedly faces an England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) investigation for allegedly labelling a spectator "a f***** p***k" during the third Test against Pakistan at the Oval.

The ugly spat with a male spectator took place when Trott was fielding on the boundary on Day Four of the Test.

According to a source, Trott snapped after being mocked for his slow scoring rate the previous day.

"A well-to-do bloke in the crowd shouted out sarcastically, 'Trott, well batted yesterday. Kept me entertained all day!'" News of The World quoted Trott, as saying.

Two balls later, Trott, who hit 36 from 130 balls in a losing cause, stared at the fan and said: "Hey, four eyes! Have you ever batted out here? Then shut the f*** up then!"

Trott is then alleged to have turned his back on the stunned crowd and loudly muttered: "You f***** p***k".

The 29-year-old is already in trouble after it was reported that the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) was considering legal action against him for allegedly calling Pakistan fast bowler Wahab Riaz "a match-fixer".

Brothers run

FROM PAGE 17

before playing another match with the mixture of foreigners and locals tomorrow.

The selection committee comprising of Brothers' ex-footballers Selim, Salam, Bablu, Nannu and Wasim will give the final decision about the foreigners.

"Now-a-days, many sub-standard foreign players play at our club level and to get the quality players we have arranged such a trial, which will almost cost the same budgets of what we spend every year searching for the foreigners," said football manager Amer Khan.

"Those who have been taking part in the trial are not at a high standard compared to our local players, but they have physical advantages and seven to eight players are better than others," said brothers coach Wasim Iqbal, who is officiating the trial matches.

India

FROM PAGE 17

Ganguly's brief speech was followed by an exchange with an audience made up mostly of university students. He spoke openly of the time he took over as India captain in 2000, which is when the match-fixing controversy first broke.

"We had some worries once the news came out in the open. We would speak to each other but none of us knew what to do, or to deal with the situation -- we'd not been approached or anything."

The six month break between seasons that followed made a difference, Ganguly said. "The BCCI decided to take players off the team and we got a lot of youngsters into the side. So we didn't have to deal with those issues, but we had it at the back of our mind".

Ganguly said he had not come across any experience to say that matches were fixed "in my entire cricketing life personally, and I can vouch for that ... Now I presume those guys, they know whom to approach. It's not just about Pakistani cricketers but players all around the world. Maybe they can just judge someone's character and know they might get through to one player and not another".

When he was asked if he would ever like to coach the Indian team, Ganguly said, "Yes, not very shortly but at some stage of my life. I would really want to do it because anything connected with Indian cricket is an honour".

Ganguly also replied to a question about a 'five-point programme' on coaching that he would give to Greg Chappell, who had a controversial tenure as India coach from 2005 to 2007. "Don't be too friendly with the media," Ganguly said, "be honest with the players and don't talk to them through the media, always work with players, get confidence out of players and stay on the backstage. The captain is the boss of the team."

DRU football

FROM PAGE 17

Khobor 5-0, Destiny beat Banglavision 3-0, Samakal beat Amader Samay 3-2, Sangram beat BSS 2-0 and Diganta beat Bangla Bazar 5-0. The Daily Star and Janakantha got walkovers as their opponents Korotoa and New Nation did not show up.



PHOTO: AFP

Australia's Marcus North follows through on a cut on the second day of the three-day practice match against Indian Board President's XI in Chandigarh yesterday.

North too hits ton

AFP, Chandigarh

Australia's Marcus North hit form with a fine century in a three-day practice match against an Indian side in Chandigarh on Sunday.

North, who has scored just one century in his last 10 Tests, hit 124 off 128 balls as the tourists posted 505 in their first innings on the second day of the tie against Board President's XI.

At stumps, the hosts were tottering at 143-6 with tail-ender Piyush Chawla on 64 not out.

North, 31, hit 19 fours and two sixes in his entertaining knock before retiring.

Tim Paine, who chipped in with a patient 45, was dismissed by pacerman Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, seeking to make a comeback after an injury layoff.

Fast bowler Ben Hilfenhaus struck quick blows when he removed captain Gautam Gambhir and Ajinkya Rahane in the same over.

Australia will play two Tests, in Mohali (October 1-5) and Bangalore (October 9-13), and three one-day internationals in Kochi (October 17), Visakhapatnam (October 20) and Goa (October 24).

SCORES IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA: First innings 505 all out (Watson 115, Katich 104 retired, North 124 retired; Ojha 3-67)

INDIAN BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI: First innings 143-6 (Chawla 64 not out; Hilfenhaus 3-28)

Alisa captures Korea Open

AFP, Seoul

Russia's Alisa Kleybanova won only her second WTA title on Sunday when she thumped the Czech Republic's Klara Zakopalova 6-1, 6-3 in the Hansol Korea Open final.

The fifth seed and world number 28 was in fine fettle all week, recovering from losing the first set in her second-round match against Ksenia Pervak to give up just 15 games in the next eight sets she played.

"Before coming here I wasn't thinking about winning the title because I haven't been playing so well recently," Kleybanova said.

"Day by day, match by match, I was feeling better about my game; towards the end of the tournament I was fighting to win the title. I'm really happy that I made it in the end."

BFF to resume

FROM PAGE 17

involvement of all districts as the competition committee wants to keep all District Football Associations busy around the year," said Malu after the meeting.

"We will place the proposal to the BFF executive committee and the inclusion of a new tournament in the calendar depends on the approval of the executive committee," said Malu, who has been appointed competition committee chairman in place of Harunur Rashid.

It's Warriors v CSK

AFP, Centurion



Davy Jacobs led his Eastern Cape Warriors to the final of the Champions League Twenty20 tournament when they beat the South Australian Redbacks by 30 runs in Saturday's semifinal.

The Warriors will meet Indian Premier League champions Chennai Super Kings in the final at the Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg on Sunday.

Jacobs (61) and Colin Ingram (46) staged a ferocious counter-attack after South Australian fast bowler Shaun Tait had South African Test batsman Ashwell Prince caught at first slip off the second ball of the match.

Jacobs and Ingram put on 104 for the second wicket off 70 balls to set their side up for a total of 175 for six off 20 overs.

Left-arm opening bowler Lonwabo Tsotsobe dismissed in-form South Australian opening batsman Michael Klinger and Daniel Harris in the fourth over and the Redbacks were unable to recover, scoring 145 for seven.

Callum Ferguson made an impressive 71 off 49 balls for the losers.

Only two runs were scored off Tait in the first over of the match but 18 were hit off the second over, surprisingly bowled by left-arm spinner Aaron O'Brien, and 16 off Tait's second over, including an audacious flick for six off his stumps by Jacobs.

Man of the match Jacobs said of his assault

on Tait: "I just thought maybe I should go after their main guy and it came off."

He said the first six overs in Twenty20 cricket were crucial in both batting and bowling.

"We got off to a good start with the bat and Lonwabo Tsotsobe started well with the ball. Our spinners bowled well and we fielded well so I am very happy."

The Warriors raced to 77 off seven overs but the scoring rate was pegged back as the ball became softer and stroke play became more difficult on a slow pitch.

Daniel Harris bowled his slow medium-pace effectively, making the breakthrough when he dismissed Jacobs and going on to take a career-best three for 18 off four overs.

The Redbacks clawed their way back into the game but a late burst of hitting by Nicky Boje and Justin Kreuzsch, who took 23 off the last over from Daniel Christian, gave the Warriors a winning total.

"On that wicket they maybe had 20 too many," said South Australian captain Klinger.

"We've had a great tournament but it's really disappointing we didn't bring our A game tonight."

SCORES IN BRIEF

EASTERN CAPE WARRIORS: 175 for 6 in 20 overs (Jacobs 61, Ingram 46, Boucher 25, Boje 22 not out; Harris 3-18, Tait 2-38)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA REDBACKS: 145 for 7 in 20 overs (Ferguson 71, Christian 19; Tsotsobe 2-16, Botha 2-34)

Result: Warriors won by 30 runs. Man-of-the-match: Davy Jacobs.

Alonso edges Vettel in Singapore

AFP, Singapore



Fernando Alonso produced a masterful drive Sunday to win an incident-packed Singapore Grand Prix ahead of a charging Sebastian Vettel to put the world championship title race on a knife-edge.

Starting from pole position, the Ferrari star led from start to finish for the second race in a row to take the chequered flag in 1:50.893, just 0.2 seconds ahead of the Red Bull tyro.

It was a measured performance from the two-time world champion Spaniard, who out-paced his title rivals under floodlights for his fourth win of the season and the 25th of his career.

In hot and humid conditions but on a dry track, the other Red Bull of Mark Webber came third to keep him atop the championship standings, leaving McLaren's Jenson Button in fourth.

But it was another disastrous day for Lewis Hamilton in his other McLaren, failing to finish the second Grand Prix in a row after colliding with Webber on lap 36, dealing his championship hopes a potentially devastating blow.

Nico Rosberg in the Mercedes came fifth, with Rubens Barrichello in a Williams sixth, Robert Kubica's Renault seventh and Adrian Sutil's Force India eighth.

It leaves the championship race finely poised with four Grand Prix to go, starting in Japan next month before South Korea, then to Brazil and Abu

Dhabi for the finale.

Webber now leads with 202 points ahead of Alonso on 191, Hamilton on 182, Vettel a point further adrift and Button on 177.

The front row of the grid was always going to be decisive on the tight Marina Bay street circuit where overtaking is difficult, and Alonso made the most of starting on pole, as he did in Monza two weeks ago.

Driving with aplomb and assurance on a track that demands precision, nerve and confidence, he came through the opening corner scramble in prime position ahead of Vettel.

The top five off the grid went through the first lap in the same position, with Alonso first, followed by Vettel, Hamilton, Button and Webber.

But there was disaster for Nick Heidfeld in the Sauber when the German was forced back to the pits for a new front wing following contact with Vitantonio Liuzzi's Force India.

The incident saw the safety car deployed on lap 3 when Liuzzi's car stopped at Turn 10 to end the Italian's race.

Webber took the opportunity to pit early and switch from soft to hard tyres, with the Australian coming out in 11th.

Alonso was steady at the front and by lap 10 had a 1.8 second advantage on Vettel, which stretched to three seconds by lap 20 as he kept clocking fastest times.

Hamilton was the first of the championship front-runners to pit, on lap 29, with Alonso, Vettel and Button all following him in. When they came out Alonso

had a 1.2 second lead on Vettel

with Webber up to third, with his early pit stop strategy paying off.

But then the safety car came out again when Sauber's Kamui Kobayashi and Hispania's Bruno Senna hit the wall to end their races.

It was a sensational restart with Hamilton trying to pass Webber on the outside, and they made contact, with the Briton coming off worse.

The Australian survived but Hamilton, who won here last year, was forced to retire, throwing his steering wheel to the ground in disgust as he got out of the car.

Minutes later and Michael Schumacher and Heidfeld collided. Heidfeld's race was over and Schumacher had to pit for a new front wing.

Alonso and Vettel were wheel-to-wheel at the front but the experienced Spaniard held on to win here for the second time in three years.

Indian boxer's

FROM PAGE 17

"I sat down on my bed to rest but suddenly it gave way," he told reporters after the incident on Saturday. "After that I noticed that part of it has no plywood."

"It was very disappointing after enduring a long journey. The athletes are at least entitled to a decent place to rest."

Kumar, 29, is one of India's best gold medal hopes after winning the 54kg category at the Melbourne Games in 2006.

Delhi runs against time

AFP, New Delhi



Organisers of the Commonwealth Games scrambled to finish facilities and reassure athletes Sunday amid warnings much work still had to be done in New Delhi just a week before the opening ceremony.

National teams arriving at the athletes' village were greeted by a massive clean-up operation as hundreds of extra staff tackled uncompleted apartments, dirty toilets and piles of builders' rubbish.

The Commonwealth Games Federation denied it had failed to supervise Delhi during preparations for the event, which Indian leaders had hoped would be a demonstration of the nation's recent economic progress.

Federation chief executive Mike Hooper on Sunday pinned the blame squarely on Indian officials.

"I'm not a construction engineer. I'm not a builder. We're at the hands and the mercy of, effectively, the government of India, the Delhi government, the agencies responsible for delivery of the venues," he said.

"Renewed deadlines came and went. New reasons for delays kept coming up. Absolutely exasperation from our perspective," Hooper, a New Zealander, told Television New Zealand.

Hooper said all 71 competing nations had been kept aware of issues that needed to be resolved and that his "constant cajoling" had often brought few results.

"We can all do these post-mortems later. The reality is right now we need to focus on getting as much as we can done," he said.

Problems facing the Games range from shabby accommodation to security fears, an outbreak of dengue fever and doubts about public safety after the collapse of a new footbridge next to the main stadium on Wednesday. In the latest withdrawals, two Australian

athletes pulled out citing health concerns and the risk of a militant attack.

Cyclist Travis Meyer and table tennis player Stephanie Sang joined high-profile withdrawals on similar grounds by English Olympic 400m gold medalist Christine Ohuruogu, world triple jump champion Phillips Idowu and Australian world discus champion Dani Samuels.

The threat of whole teams withdrawing has receded, and the rest of Australia's participants begin arriving in New Delhi on Monday.

On Sunday, about 20 support staff from England moved into the Games village ahead of the country's first athletes.

"It's exciting but also a relief to be able to occupy our accommodation," said chef de mission Craig Hunter. "It has been a challenging experience but one which will make us stronger."

The English men's hockey side were forced to book into a hotel when they landed in Delhi because their apartments were unusable.

"It was very, very bad when we arrived," Jefri Ngadirin, the team manager for Malaysia, told AFP at the athletes' village. "We're working hard to get things OK for when our athletes fly in."

Ngadirin said he had been lifting furniture, cleaning rooms and lobbying Indian officials to repair air-conditioning units and taps.

"The organisers promised to help us and now they have got a lot more people," he said. "Progress is good. They just didn't plan ahead. This place should have been ready in July, but our hopes were dashed when we saw it."

Mike Fennell, president of the Commonwealth Games Federation, on Saturday said "extensive work" still had to be done and warned of the damage done to India's image.

He added that problems with transport, security, fire and evacuation procedures and medical services all needed to be addressed immediately.

Wozniacki aims for Pan Pacific glory

Tennis

AFP, Tokyo

The world number two Caroline Wozniacki beamed with confidence Sunday as she prepared for the star-studded Pan Pacific Open women's tennis tournament.

"I am just enjoying myself out there. I know I am a good player. I will just go out there and do my best," the top-seeded Dane told a small group of reporters as the first round of the tournament kicked off.

Twenty-five out of the world's top 30 players are taking part in the two-million-

dollar hard court tournament, with only Kim Clijsters, Serena and Venus Williams, Justine Henin and Li Na missing.

Wozniacki, the 2009 US Open finalist, said she was hungry for victories and had her eyes firmly set on Grand Slam titles this year.

"I am improving all the time and getting closer to my goals. So I just continue the way I have," she said.

"I know that I can stay on court for the whole day because I feel I am in a good shape. It doesn't matter for me if we play three, four hours. I will be the last one standing," she said.

In Tokyo, Wozniacki faces a strong field of rivals, including rising star Vera Zvonareva of Russia, who beat her in their semifinal showdown in this year's US Open.

Fourth-ranked Zvonareva said her recent hard-fought victories had brought her performance to a higher level.

She won against Kim Clijsters for her first time at Wimbledon, a feat she repeated in August in Montreal.

"I have played on the tour for a few years, and I think I know myself much more," Zvonareva said.

"I just got a lot of great experience this year," she said. "I think I am much more experienced and a mature player now."

Former world number one Jelena Jankovic, now ranked sixth, said it had taken her a while to regain fitness after twisting her



PHOTO: AFP

Alisa Kleybanova of Russia celebrates after beating Klara Zakopalova of Czech Republic in the Hansol Korea Open final at the Olympic Park in Seoul yesterday. Kleybanova 6-1, 6-3.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 24 mins and a grid with numbers indicating clue positions.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with numbers indicating clue positions. The clues are: TO XOC TYFRO TSBJFGK IC, CYO MYIFBXXIJFGK DIMCSBW, F YIAO CS UIW FC TIU RSO, IC DFBUC UOIC.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with numbers indicating clue positions. The clues are: Saturday's Cryptoquip: I CAN'T QUITE RECALL ANY SIGNIFICANT NEWS ABOUT BAGHDAD NO MATTER HOW MUCH IRAQ MY BRAIN. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals S